Eduardo Cadava, Professor of English at Princeton University, specializes in American literature and culture, literary and political theory, comparative literature, media technologies, and theory of translation. He will be discussing the ways in which Emerson's essay "Friendship" reflects on the conditions that make friendship possible and impossible. Insisting on dissociating friendship from knowledge, transparency, or communion, Emerson suggests that friendship never occurs without the marking of a certain strangeness. The stranger not only marks the limit of friendship, but he at the same time suggests the alterity without which friendship is impossible.

Professor Cadava's books include Words of Light: Theses on the Photography of History (Princeton), Emerson and the Climates of History (Stanford), and Fazal Sheikh: Portraits (Steidl); he is co-editor of The Itinerant Languages of Photography (Princeton), Who Comes After the Subject? (Routledge), and Cities Without Citizens (Rosenbach Museum/Slought Foundation). Cadava’s new book Paper Graveyards: Essays on Art and Photography is forthcoming from Princeton.